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PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE IMPROVES

At a recent session of the Proletarian Rayon Council of Workers' Deputies in Frunze several reports were submitted on the various improvements made in medical service to the people of the Kirgiz capital. Kalinkina, chief of the Rayon Public Health Department reported on the assistance rendered by the state toward improving medical care for the working man.

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Kalinkina stated that whereas in 1914 there were only five hospitals, 14 doctors, and 21 surgeon's assistants in the whole of the SSR, today in Proletarskiy Rayon alone there are 84 doctors, 190 surgeon's assistants, several polyclinics, maternity homes, scores of children's welfare centers, and a large network of dispensaries and health points in factories and industrial buildings. More than 5.5 million rubles will be spent in 1949 on public health needs in this rayon.

The delegates to the conference resolved to increase the polyclinic network, to improve the service available to invalids both at home and in hospitals, and to place greater emphasis on the importance of sanitation-prophylactic work in schools and industrial enterprises of the rayon.

Medical Plan Completed

The Kiev Oblast Public Health Department has completed the state plan for expanding the network of sanitation and therapeutic institutions. Among many of the completed projects are basic buildings for an obstetrical and gynecological hospital in Festova, children's welfare centers in Chernobyl, and many others.

All rural rayon centers are staffed with specialists embracing almost all fields of medicine. Programs for the installation of X-ray equipment have been so successful that all plans have been exceeded; 101,000 children's beds have been made available instead of the 95,000 planned.

Voluntary labor from kolkhoz workers made possible the conversion of 25 buildings into rural hospitals, thus permitting the conversion of a like number of dispensaries for ambulatory patients into dispensaries for bed patients. Never in the history of the Oblast Public Health Department have medical enterprises been prepared for winter operation as early as this year. All repair work has been completed and fuel supplies have been stocked. At present, plans are underway to use voluntary services to build hospitals in Uman, Berezani, Zhashkova, and other cities. Most of these will be started shortly after the end of this year.

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